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Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R006700530

INTELCOM 18

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 23 JAN 51

SUBJECT Military and Political Situation in Hunan

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1A

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ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)25X1C
DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. In October 1950 there were from three to five airplanes at the Hengyang (112-35, 26-56) airfield. The planes made occasional trips to Hankow, Kueilin, and other places. The Chen hsien (112-59, 25-18) airfield was unusable.
2. All four military depots contained large quantities of materiel. These were located as follows: two at Tungyangtu (112-36, 26-51), one about two miles west of Hengyang, and one temporary depot in south Chen hsien.
3. The morale of most of the officers and men of the 4 Field Army under Lin Piao in Hunan was excellent. However, the morale of former Nationalists in the 46 and 66 Regiments stationed at Lai Yang (萊陽) and Yunghsing (113-05, 26-09) was low despite the fact that they were being treated well.*
4. In West Hunan, farmers received little from the 1950 autumn harvest because of heavy taxation in kind. Every farmer could retain only 150 catties of rice in husks. Other agricultural products were requisitioned compulsorily according to a progressive tax scale. Most of the farmers in the area were dissatisfied with the treatment they were receiving from the government.
5. The Communist educational system was meeting financial difficulties in rural areas. Also, because of the Communist emphasis on politics rather than technical knowledge, some of the older people were reluctant to send young people to Communist schools. When the Communists first took over, many students enrolled in Communist military and political cadre schools, but later many played truant from school and engaged in anti-Communist activities. For example, during October at Hunan University anti-Communist posters were often seen on the walls of campus buildings, and Communists were unable to do anything about it.
6. As of October 1950 the highest political authority in Hunan was HUANG K'o-ch'in (黃克勤), a provincial political commissar. Political commissars in the various cities and counties under HUANG formed an independent political control system. Important Communist workers were holding petty positions such as clerks and errand boys at all levels in the government under assumed names in order to conduct party activities.

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 Auth: HR TC-2
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- 2 -

7. In addition, Communists were using various groups and associations outside the government to carry out secret work. In villages of more than thirty inhabitants, from one to five Communists were working under the Communist Youth League to obtain information about those who engage in anti-Communist activities.

25X1A

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* Comment. [redacted] reported other defected Nationalist troops who were dissatisfied with Communist Army.

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** Comment. Possibly identical with HUANG K'o-ch'eng who was reported as chief of the Political Department, First Command, Third Military District, Kunan. [redacted]

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